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Economic and Social Council

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Commission on the Status of Women
Fifty-third session
2-13 March 2009

Draft report

Rapporteur: Cécile **Mballa Eyenga** (Cameroon)

Organization of the session

A. Opening and duration of the session

1. The Commission on the Status of Women held its fifty-third session at United Nations Headquarters from 2 to 13 March 2009. The Commission held _____ meetings (1st to __).

2. The session was opened by the Chairperson of the Commission, Olivier Belle (Belgium), who also made a statement.

3. At the 1st meeting, on 2 March 2009, statements were made by the Deputy Secretary-General, the President of the Economic and Social Council, the Under-Secretary-General for Economic and Social Affairs and the Assistant Secretary-General and Special Adviser on Gender Issues and Advancement of Women.

4. At the 5th meeting, on 4 March, statements were made by the Assistant Secretary-General and Special Adviser on Gender Issues and Advancement of Women, the Director of the Division for the Advancement of Women and the Executive Director of the United Nations Development Fund for Women.

5. At the same meeting, the Special Rapporteur on violence against women made a presentation and responded to comments and questions posed by the representatives of Croatia, Turkey, Malaysia, Ecuador and the United States of America, as well as by the observers for Switzerland, the Czech Republic (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the European Union) and Argentina.

6. At the 10th meeting, on 6 March, a statement was made by the Chairperson of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women.

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B. Attendance

7. The session was attended by representatives of __ States members of the Commission. Observers of other States Members of the United Nations and of non-Member States, representatives of organizations of the United Nations system and observers for intergovernmental, non-governmental and other organizations also attended.

C. Officers of the Commission

8. In accordance with paragraph 2 of Economic and Social Council resolution 1987/21, the officers are elected to the Bureau of the Commission for a term of office of two years. The following officers elected were elected to the Bureau of the fifty-second and fifty-third sessions:

Chairperson:
Olivier Belle (Belgium)

Vice-Chairpersons:
Ara Margarian (Armenia)
Enna Park (Republic of Korea)
Julio Peralta (Paraguay)

Vice-Chairperson-cum-Rapporteur:
Cécile Mballa Eyenga (Cameroon)

D. Agenda and organization of work

9. At its 1st meeting, on 2 March, the Commission adopted its agenda and approved its organization of work as contained in document E/CN.6/2009/1. The agenda read as follows:

1. Election of officers.
2. Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters.
3. Follow-up to the Fourth World Conference on Women and to the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly, entitled "Women 2000: gender equality, development and peace for the twenty-first century":
   (a) Implementation of strategic objectives and action in critical areas of concern and further actions and initiatives:
      (i) The equal sharing of responsibilities between women and men, including caregiving in the context of HIV/AIDS;
      (ii) Equal participation of women and men in decision-making processes at all levels;
   (b) Emerging issues, trends and new approaches to issues affecting the situation of women or equality between women and men;
   (c) Gender mainstreaming, situations and programmatic matters.

4. Communications concerning the status of women.

5. Follow-up to Economic and Social Council resolutions and decisions.

6. Provisional agenda for the fifty-fourth session of the Commission.

7. Adoption of the report of the Commission on its fifty-third session.

Participation of the Cook Islands and Niue as observers at the fifty-third session of the Commission

10. Also at the 1st meeting, following a statement made by the Secretary of the Commission and further to the requests of the Cook Islands and Niue to participate as observers at the fifty-third session of the Commission, the Commission decided to invite the Cook Islands and Niue, in accordance with rule 69 of the rules of procedure of the functional commissions of the Economic and Social Council, to take part in the fifty-third session as Observers.

11. Statements were made by the observer for Argentina and the Secretary of the Commission.

E. Appointment of the members of a working group on communications on the status of women

12. Pursuant to Economic and Social Council resolution 1983/27, the Commission established a working group to consider communications concerning the status of women. The following five members, nominated by their regional groups, were appointed to the working group of the fifty-third session:

Janine Elizabeth Coye-Felson (Belize)
Asif Garayev (Azerbaijan)
Ana Jimenez (Spain)
Palesa Joyce Liphoto (Lesotho)
Fuzuki Nomura (Japan)

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Commission on the Status of Women
Fifty-third session
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Agenda item 3 (a)
Follow-up to the Fourth World Conference on Women and to the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly, entitled "Women 2000: gender equality, development and peace for the twenty-first century": implementation of strategic objectives and action in critical areas of concern and further actions and initiatives

Draft resolution submitted by the Chairperson on the basis of informal consultations

Preparations for the fifty-fourth session of the Commission on the Status of Women

The Commission on the Status of Women,

Recalling Economic and Social Council resolution 2006/9 of 25 July 2006, in which the Council decided that the Commission, at its fifty-third session, would discuss the possibility of conducting, in 2010, a review of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action[1] and the outcomes of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly entitled "Women 2000: gender equality, development and peace for the twenty-first century",[2]

Noting the relevance of the regional reviews and outcomes of the regional-level intergovernmental processes in preparation for the "Beijing plus 15" review,

Building upon its agreed conclusions 1996/1, and taking into account Economic and Social Council resolutions 2001/27 of 26 July 2001, 2004/57 of 23 July 2004 and 2006/9 and General Assembly resolution 57/270 B of 23 June 2003,

1. *Decides* to review, at its fifty-fourth session, the implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action[1] and the outcomes of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly, entitled "Women 2000: gender equality, development and peace",[2] emphasizing the sharing of experiences and good

[1] *Report of the Fourth World Conference on Women, Beijing, 4-15 September 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.13), chap. I, resolution 1, annexes I and II.

[2] General Assembly resolution S-23/2, annex, and resolution S-23/3, annex.

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practices, with a view to overcoming remaining obstacles and new challenges, including those related to the Millennium Development Goals;

2. *Requests* the Bureau of the Commission on the Status of Women, in preparation for the fifty-fourth session of the Commission, to hold informal consultations with all member States and Observer States of the Commission on the modalities of the review with a view to agreeing on its format and outcome;

3. *Decides* to commemorate the fifteenth anniversary of the adoption of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action, and in this regard recommends, through the Economic and Social Council, that the General Assembly hold a commemorative meeting during the fifty-fourth session of the Commission in March 2010.

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Fifty-third session
2-13 March 2009
Agenda item 6
Provisional agenda for the fifty-fourth session of the Commission

Provisional agenda and documentation for the fifty-fourth session of the Commission on the Status of Women

1. Election of officers.

2. Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters.

Documentation

Annotated provisional agenda and proposed organization of work of the Commission on the Status of Women

3. Follow-up to the Fourth World Conference on Women and to the special session of the General Assembly entitled "Women 2000: gender equality, development and peace for the twenty-first century":

(a) Implementation of strategic objectives and action in critical areas of concern, and further actions and initiatives;

Documentation

Report of the Secretary-General on the review of the implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action and the outcomes of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly and its contribution to shaping a gender perspective towards the full realization of the Millennium Development Goals

(b) Emerging issues, trends and new approaches to issues affecting the situation of women or equality between women and men;

(c) Gender mainstreaming, situations and programmatic matters.

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Documentation

Report of the Secretary-General on progress in mainstreaming a gender perspective in the development, implementation and evaluation of national policies and programmes, with a particular focus on the priority theme

Report of the Secretary-General on the situation of, and assistance to, Palestinian women

Report of the Secretary-General on release of women and children taken hostage, including those subsequently imprisoned, in armed conflicts

Report of the Secretary-General on ending female genital mutilation

Report of the Secretary-General on the joint workplan of the Division for the Advancement of Women and the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights

Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the United Nations Development Fund for Women on the activities of the Fund to eliminate violence against women

Note by the Secretariat transmitting the outcome of the forty-fifth session of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women

Note by the Secretariat on the strategic framework for the biennium 2012-2013: subprogramme 2: Gender issues and advancement of women

4. Communications concerning the status of women.

Documentation

Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the list of confidential communications concerning the status of women

5. Follow-up to Economic and Social Council resolutions and decisions.

Documentation

Letter from the President of the Economic and Social Council to the Chairperson of the Commission on the Status of Women

Note by the Secretariat as input to the high-level segment of the substantive session of 2010 of the Economic and Social Council

6. Provisional agenda for the fifty-fifth session of the Commission.

7. Adoption of the report of the Commission on its fifty-fourth session.